Entomologists who are in contact with the corn borer problem appear to be agreed upon one point. By none of the present known methods of control will it be possible to exterminate the corn borer. The voluntary or enforced adoption of mechanical methods of control plus what may be accomplished through the introduction of parasites may delay the day of serious commercial damage, possibly for an indefinite period. These same measures may slow up the rate of spread of the insect into non-infested territory, although this seems less probable. In any event, for many years to come, there will probably be seasons when in some regions the corn borer will be an important factor in increasing the cost of corn production. In other words, the corn borer is here to stay, and it will be the agronomist’s particular job to do what he can to make it possible for the farmer to grow corn profitably in spite of corn borer infestation, more or less severe, depending upon the season and the effectiveness of control methods.

The suggestion has been made that if the farmer could be induced to reduce his corn acreage voluntarily the problem of control might be greatly simplified. This suggestion will meet with little favor in the larger corn-producing states where the corn borer problem is apt to be most serious. Any policy which requires the farmer to reorganize his entire cropping system is fraught with danger. While the replacement of corn by alfalfa, sugar beets, tobacco, or by any other crop may appear economically sound in some sections at the present time.

1Paper read at the meeting of the Society held in Washington, D. C., November 18, 1926. Contribution from the Department of Agronomy, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, O.
2Agronomist and Associate Agronomist, respectively.